



# Iowa General Assembly

## 2005 Committee Briefings

Legislative Services Agency – Legal Services Division

<http://www.legis.state.ia.us/aspx/Archives/Committees/Interim/2005/Committee.aspx?id=62>

### SOCIOECONOMIC EFFECTS OF GAMBLING ON IOWANS STUDY COMMITTEE

**Meeting Dates:** [November 10, 2005](#)

**Purpose.** *This compilation of briefings on legislative interim committee meetings and other meetings and topics of interest to the Iowa General Assembly, written by the Legal Services Division staff of the nonpartisan Legislative Services Agency, describes committee activities or topics. The briefings were originally distributed in the Iowa Legislative Interim Calendar and Briefing. Official minutes, reports, and other detailed information concerning the committee or topic addressed by a briefing can be obtained from the committee's Internet page listed above, from the Iowa General Assembly's Internet page at <http://www.legis.state.ia.us>, or from the agency connected with the meeting or topic described.*

### SOCIOECONOMIC EFFECTS OF GAMBLING ON IOWANS STUDY COMMITTEE

November 10, 2005

**Co-chairperson:** Senator Mark Ziemann

**Co-chairperson:** Representative Jeff Elgin

**Overview.** This study was required pursuant to 2004 Iowa Acts, ch. 1136, sec. 61. The Studies Committee of the Legislative Council served as the supervising committee in lieu of appointing a separate committee.

Dr. Deepak Chhabra, principal investigating officer on the gambling study from the University of Northern Iowa, made a presentation to the Studies Committee on the final report of the Study on the Socioeconomic Impact of Gambling on Iowans. The presentation, final report, and other information concerning the study can be found on the following internet page: <http://www.legis.state.ia.us/aspx/Archives/Committees/Interim/2005/Committee.aspx?id=62>

#### **Study Findings.**

The final presentation highlighted the following findings:

- Positive economic impacts from gambling are generated in terms of output, value-added, and employment, and contributions to the state, city, and county.
- The employment rate in casino and control group of counties is similar.
- 31.5 percent of the induced effects of gambling are lost to adjoining states.
- The evidence points to an association between bankruptcy and gambling.
- Residents and social service providers are concerned to see senior citizens squander their money away.
- While crime in casino counties is greater than in noncasino counties, this trend predates the introduction of casino gambling and needs further investigation.
- Iowans want to see better use of gambling tax revenue, including more promotional funds for the Iowan Gambling Treatment Program.

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